

GUARANTEE

Your Money Back If You Want It. See Editorial Page, First Column.

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BAKERS, AFRAID, MAY RESTORE FIVE-CENT LOAF

Report, at Hearing, Says Some Firms Want to Avoid Inquiry.

WITNESS MAY FACE CHARGE OF PERJURY

Lasher's Loss of Memory To Be Laid Before Prosecutor—Ward to Give Dough Sample.

There were strong indications yesterday that the large baking firms were beginning to run to cover on the six-cent bread proposition and get back to the old price of five cents.

The rumor has been in the air for several days at the investigation of the Attorney General into the causes of the advance in price. Yesterday there was a definite report that the Shults Baking Company, one of the largest bread making firms in the city, had decided to clip off the extra penny.

The report came to Commissioner Hartigan of the Bureau of Weights and Measures, who said that some of his investigators had been told by Shults customers that the drivers of that company informed them the price was soon to go back to four cents wholesale, which would mean the five cent loaf for the ultimate consumer.

Officials of the Shults company made no positive denial of the report last night. Alfred Romer, vice-president of the company, said that he "had not heard" of any such plan at present, but intimated that it might be a future possibility.

Some May Fear the Light.

There are good reasons to support the "retreat" of the big bakers. In the first place, the Attorney General has been hard after the large firms, and investigations are being focused upon them from all sides.

A point has been reached where the impression prevails that some of them have been resorting to methods in business, as well as practices in manufacturing bread, which they would not care to have disclosed. It was suggested that they might hope to forestall further attack by returning to the old conditions which prevailed prior to the raising of prices on February 10, the primary cause for so many investigations.

In the opinion of Deputy Attorney General Becker, who is conducting the Attorney General's inquiry, the most significant point brought out in the testimony at yesterday's hearing was that some of the largest bakers probably still had a supply of flour on hand from which they were making bread at the present time which had not cost them much over \$5 a barrel. They had purchased this supply before the flour prices began to jump. This would indicate that the advance to 6-cent bread was not warranted.

Representatives of the Shults company, the General Baking Company and the Ward Baking Company presented data requested by the Deputy Attorney General yesterday which, Mr. Becker said, would strongly indicate such a situation, at least in respect to some of the firms. Other tabulations presented seemed to show a fair profit on the bread prior to the advance.

It is no state secret in baking circles that the hundreds of small bakers all over the city who declined to follow the lead of the big fellows in raising prices have been cutting into the business of the large firms. The small bakers have taken good advantage of the situation to increase their trade, and, it is believed, still make a profit on their wares.

The alleged case of coercion on the part of some of the salesmen drivers which developed at the Attorney General's investigation, to force the small dealers to advance the price, was cited as evidence of the desperate methods resorted to in the struggle to keep up and eliminate the hazardous competition.

Refused to Give Sample.

Another significant point developed at yesterday's hearing was that a representative of the State Department of Foods and Markets had been refused a sample of the flour mixture by the Ward Baking Company. W. E. Fitzgerald, secretary of the department, sent a man on Tuesday to the Ward bakery with a request for the sample. He called unexpectedly, it was said, and was refused the sample. The department of Foods and Markets, as well as the Attorney General, is anxious to analyze a mixture used by the large bakers because of the rumors that certain adulterations, particularly cornmeal flour, have been used in baking bread.

James B. Arthur, secretary of the Ward Baking Company, when asked on the witness stand yesterday about the call of the department representative, admitted the circumstance and declared that the company was not willing to furnish samples unless it was compelled to do so. Mr. Fitzgerald said samples had been obtained from other large firms.

The sample was finally promised, and a request by Mr. Becker to inspect the Ward plant was granted. Deputy Attorney General Becker, and Referee Nicholas intend to inspect other large plants.

The state investigators were considerably surprised yesterday by the remarkable exhibition of lapse of memory on the part of Jefferson Lasher, the Ward driver, who testified at a hearing last week that he had been ordered by officials of the company to insist that his customers raise the price of bread to six cents. Lasher's memory was a state of almost total eclipse. He couldn't "recall" or "remember" a single word or circumstance of his former testimony.

FULL CREW LAW DOOMED

Republican Senators Prepare to Push Repeal Bill.

[From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune.] Albany, Feb. 24.—A caucus of Republican Senators to-day voted unanimously for the Spring-Conkling bill to repeal the Sulzer full crew law.

As similar action is expected by the Republican majority of the Assembly, the death of this law, which has been fought by the railroads ever since its enactment, not only on the ground that it is confiscatory, but that it is an infringement on the powers of the Public Service Commission, is assured.

Many Democrats have also promised to support the bill. The Railroads Committee of the Assembly will give a hearing on the full crew repeal bill on March 9.

PLOT TO KILL PERKINS'S AID

Bostwick Has Narrow Escape from Fumes of Drug—Juror Collapses.

To avenge the vigorous prosecution which forced Nicholas Farraro, on trial for white slavery in General Sessions, to change his plea to guilty, friends of the Italian made a desperate attempt to kill Assistant District Attorney Bostwick with the deadly fumes of amyl nitrite as he left the courtroom. Although the alleged plot miscarried, William Wright, one of the jurors, was made unconscious by a dose of the drug evidently intended for Mr. Bostwick.

The attempt on Bostwick's life was made at the end of Farraro's trial a week ago, but it was not reported to the District Attorney until yesterday, when Judge Wadhams sentenced the white slaver to not less than nine years and eight months nor more than nineteen years and nine months in Sing Sing. Francesca Battaglia was sentenced to the Bedford Reformatory at the same time. She was arrested with Farraro on the complaint of Louise Meyer, a girl who had been held a prisoner in the house Farraro kept at 102 Mott Street, and was finally rescued by the police.

Farraro's trial began February 16, but the next day, realizing that he had no chance against the strong case that Bostwick had against him, he changed his plea to guilty and appealed to the mercy of the court. The Assistant District Attorney left the courtroom with juror No. 5, William Wright, of 752 Greenwich Street, and they went together to the south elevators.

A crowd of Farraro's friends swarmed from the courtroom and jostled around them as they waited for a car. Bostwick went to his office upstairs and Wright started for the street. As he left the elevator, however, he collapsed and was carried into a side room, where he was revived with some difficulty, though it was thought at the time that he had suffered only a fainting spell. He later consulted a physician, Dr. Edwin Zimmerman, of 297 West Eleventh Street. After a careful examination Dr. Zimmerman said that in his opinion the juror was the victim of amyl nitrite poisoning. Nothing else, he said, would cause a man of Wright's strong constitution to collapse so quickly.

In discussing his experience with Mr. Bostwick yesterday, Wright said he was sure he was the victim of an attack directed against the Assistant District Attorney. Just before stepping into the elevator, he said, he can remember noticing a peculiar odor.

Amyl nitrite, according to the "United States Dispensary," is an extremely volatile yellowish liquid. It is used in minute quantities as a heart stimulant, and its fumes, if inhaled in any quantity, are fatal. It produces a sense of suffocation and weakness, together with a violent flushing of the face and excessive heart action.

When District Attorney Perkins was told of Mr. Bostwick's escape yesterday afternoon, he was greatly interested. "I'm mighty glad he's alive," he said.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY MAY BECOME JAIL

Movement Under Way in Upstate City of Amsterdam to Transform Building.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Amsterdam, N. Y., Feb. 24.—A movement was started here to-day to transform the local Carnegie library building into a jail. City officials, it is said, were making tentative plans showing the possible rearrangement of the building.

The library was erected in 1902 by Andrew Carnegie, with the stipulation that the city was to provide for its maintenance. The usual appropriation of \$3,000 was stricken from the budget last night, together with other appropriations, to keep the budget within the \$200,000 limit.

MORE MOTHERS REGAIN POSTS AS TEACHERS

Mrs. L. M. Wagner and Mrs. Weeks Reinstated. by Order.

EDUCATION BOARD REVERSES POLICY

Amendment Allows Married Women to Teach and to Have Two-Year Leaves of Absence.

Following the decision of Dr. John H. Finley, State Commissioner of Education, the Board of Education yesterday reinstated as a teacher Mrs. Lily R. Weeks, who was dismissed from service on February 3, 1913. Dr. Finley ordered that she be reinstated three weeks ago and decided that absence from school work to bear a child did not constitute neglect of duty. This was also the finding in the first mother-teacher case, that of Mrs. Bridget C. Peickotte.

Mrs. Lora M. Wagner, whose appeal was denied by the Commissioner at that time, was yesterday ordered restored to duty by the board, acting on a resolution introduced by Commissioner Stern. Her baby was born on October 31.

Other important steps were taken in regard to the mother-teacher controversy by the board. Mrs. Helen St. Clair Mullen introduced a motion, which was adopted, to the effect that the bylaws be amended so that married women may be appointed as teachers, and that they may be eligible for promotion.

Leave to Regain Health. Another question of weight was decided at the recommendation of the committee on bylaws and legislation. This will provide that the board of superintendents may grant leave of absence, without pay of any kind, to a principal or teacher for a period of one year for the recovery of health. For the purpose of bearing and rearing a child a teacher may receive a two years' leave of absence.

When a member of the teaching or supervising staff who is a married woman desires such leave she is to notify the City Superintendent, and also shall apply for the same to the board. It is also stipulated that a leave of absence may be terminated by the Board at any time that the teacher shall make an application for such an action.

The board also voted to fill vacancies caused by the absence of mother-teachers from the regular list.

Economy Plan Sought.

Commissioner John Greene introduced a resolution in connection with the report of the Committee on Finance, which was adopted. This reads as follows: "Resolved, Because of the shortage in the general school fund for 1915, the Board of Superintendents be instructed to refrain for the time being from organizing new classes, filling in new positions except for the utmost necessity, that they consolidate classes when possible, that they will not nominate regular teachers where the cost substitutes is lower, and that they do all they can to restrict demands upon the fund.

SHORT MAN MAKES THE BEST FIGHTER

English Physiologist Gives the Royal Sanitary Institute Results of Study.

London, Feb. 14.—The short man makes the better fighter, says Dr. M. S. Pembrey, lecturer on physiology at Guy's Hospital, in a discussion before the Royal Sanitary Institute. This he bases on a careful study of the fighting capacity of tall and short races, and also of the tall men and short men of the same race.

GERMAN ATTACHE NOW NAMED IN PASSPORT PLOT

Arrest Here of Two Men Said to Involve Others in Alleged Frauds.

CAPT. BOY-ED DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF PLOT

Prisoners Held in \$15,000 Bail Each—Jealous Woman Gave Clew, It Is Said.

After working on clues for more than a month, federal agents yesterday made two more arrests in the alleged fraudulent passport traffic which is said to be flourishing in New York and New Jersey since German revisers here found it impossible to get back to the Fatherland. The men arrested are Richard Peter Stegler, assistant manager of Keuffel & Esser, manufacturers of drawing instruments, at Third and Adams streets, Hoboken, and Gustave Cook, who gave his address as the American Hotel, 80 River Street, Hoboken.

Stegler told the federal authorities that Captain Boy-ed, naval attaché of the German Embassy, asked him to go to England as Richard Madden, an American citizen, and locate a fleet of British dreadnoughts believed to be hiding in St. George's Channel. He was to cable this information to New York, where it was to be transmitted by wireless to secret German bases in the North Sea.

As soon as they received Stegler's report German submarines were to make a more daring raid on the British naval defenses than has yet been attempted.

All Knowledge Denied. Regarding the charges made by Stegler, Captain Boy-ed said: "I wrote letters to Richard Stegler and sent him telegrams. There is not a word, however, in anything I have written or said which shows that I knew of this alleged fraudulent passport plot."

"My acquaintance with Stegler came about through the frequent application he made to me for employment. He was represented to me as a man who spoke several languages and possessed literary and scientific attainments."

"At first I was not interested, but when friends urged me to interest myself in his behalf I consented to try to get work for him. I wrote several letters for him to be presented to friends of mine who might have work for him. I believe he obtained temporary employment, but later I made discoveries that caused me to cease these efforts in his behalf."

"I have not seen Stegler for a week and a half or two weeks. He was quite penniless when he first sought my aid, and I did what I could to help him along, as I knew him to be a German who had been a seafarer. This man Cook I did not know."

"I feel a reluctance in discussing this matter, as I do not really see that I am called upon to say anything, except that I believe I should try to clear up any false impressions that may have gained currency."

"Any assertion that Stegler has any documents of mine is based upon the fact that he may still have these letters of introduction I wrote for him, but which have no significance beneath their surface meaning."

Stegler, who lives with his bride of 1 year at 25 St. Nicholas Avenue, was formerly employed as a sea captain by the Hansa Steamship Company. He is now a captain in the German Naval Reserve and well known in local German circles.

WILSON WOULDN'T MISS HIGH SOCIETY

Tells Washington Audience the World Could Dispense with It.

[From The Tribune Bureau.] Washington, Feb. 24.—President Wilson paid his respects to "high society" to-night in a speech delivered in Memorial Continental Hall, home of the Daughters of the American Revolution, at a meeting held in the interests of the so-called "Highlanders of America," dwellers in the Southern Appalachian Mountains, and Berea College, their institution of learning, in Kentucky.

"What America has vindicated above all things else," President Wilson said, "is that native ability has nothing to do with social origin. It is very amusing sometimes to see the airs that high society gives itself. The world could dispense with high society and never miss it. High society is for those who have stopped working and no longer have anything important to do."

Boy Waif, Guest at Gould Home, Had Winning Way, and Chickenpox



Little John Doe No. 104 Came to Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Shepard as a Caller, but Stayed as a Patient—Gould Children There at the Time.

Like Alice in the book, John Doe No. 104, as he is known to the Children's Society, must think he has passed through the looking glass.

For a boy of four, it's a long, long journey on Fifth Avenue from outside St. Patrick's Cathedral, at Fifth Street, to inside the house of Gould at Forty-seventh Street. But John Doe No. 104 made it, although it took him more than four months.

An abandoned waif, he was found one night last September sound asleep on the cathedral steps, his flaxen hair in wavylets over his ears. A few weeks ago he laid his curly head on a nice snowy pillow in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Finley J. Shepard, 579 Fifth Avenue.

Winning Way and Chicken Pox. True, he was only a temporary guest, but he remained longer than his hosts intended. And thereby hangs the tale.

Finley J. Shepard, himself sitting in his office at the headquarters of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, 165 Broadway, consented to tell a little about the history of this youngster's visit to Mrs. Shepard's home. John Doe No. 104 brought with him a winning smile, a cheerful disposition and a winning way that made every one love him. But he also brought with him the chicken pox, which was not so winning.

"This little boy visited us about a month ago, as many other children do," said Mr. Shepard. "I believe we became interested in him through the Big Sister movement. He came to spend a few days with us, but his visit was of necessity protracted when he came down with the chicken pox."

"He left us as soon as he recovered from a mild attack of the disease. He's a fine little fellow. We all liked him," Mr. Shepard declined to say whether young John Doe, with an innocent eye of reciprocity, gave of his chicken pox.

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SILENCER HIDES TAFT AID'S DEATH

Captain A. E. Harding, Friend of Major Butt, Kills Himself.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—Captain Arthur Eugene Harding, of the United States Marine Corps, committed suicide at the Racquet Club here to-night by shooting himself in the head with a revolver to which was attached a Maxim silencer. He killed himself in his bedroom on the third floor of the clubhouse, where he had been staying for ten days as an "army-navy" member. The shot was not heard in any other room.

Captain Harding is the second aid of ex-President Taft to meet a violent death. The other was Major Archie Butt, who went down with the Titanic. Captain Harding was friendly with Major Butt when both were at the capital.

When he offered sent a valet for his mail and a drink this morning. He was apparently cheerful and told the man he "never felt better in his life." He then sat on the edge of the bed, clad in his pajamas, took his service revolver from his holster, placed it against his right temple and fired. The bullet went through the brain, struck the bedpost and buried itself in the flooring.

Harding died and summoned Dr. Walter A. Wood, who notified the Coroner's office. Lieutenant Ward K. Worth, a close friend of Captain Harding, was at the club when the suicide occurred.

The police have not yet found any motive for the suicide. It is known that Captain Harding had been suffering from nervous indigestion, but Dr. Wood denied that ill-health might have made him take his own life. Members of the club who saw him not long before his death say he was in excellent spirits.

GERMAN BLOCKADE COSTS GREAT BRITAIN THREE MORE VESSELS

Toll of First Week of Berlin's War Zone Decree Is Nine Ships, All Except Two Being British.

AUXILIARY CRUISER WITH 280 LOST

Clan Macnaughton Believed to Have Foundered in Storm—Crew of American Steamer Carib Which Struck Mine Saved.

[By Cable to The Tribune.] London, Feb. 25.—The sinking of three more British vessels yesterday completed the toll of the first week of Germany's activities under the Berlin decree that the waters around the British islands were to be considered a war zone from February 18.

The total of the week's destruction (in British waters only) is six British ships, two Norwegian and one French—nine in all. Two of the vessels succeeded in reaching port and in all only four lives were lost.

Outside British waters, two Norwegian and two American ships have been sunk in the North Sea. Two British steamers and the Spanish freighter Specia are overdue and may have to be added to the list.

Against this the Germans admit fears that they have lost two submarines, and a third is believed to have been sunk by a French destroyer.

All the vessels sunk in the war zone were small, and three of them were caught either at anchor or practically without way on.

The failure to torpedo a fast cross-Channel steamer is believed to show that vessels with moderate speed and careful observation will run little danger from the German underwater craft.

The three British steamships sunk yesterday were the Oakby, the Rio Parana and the Harpalion. The Oakby is believed to have been torpedoed by submarines. Three lives were lost on the Harpalion.

A dispatch to Lloyds agency from New Haven says the steamer Rio Parana, of London, which was laden with coal and bound from the Tyne to Porto Ferrajo, Island of Elba, struck a mine five miles southeast of Beachy Head at 3 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. The explosion tore a hole in the vessel's starboard side, and she filled and sank. The crew of the Rio Parana was rescued by a torpedo boat and landed at New Haven.

The British steamer Harpalion, from London for Newport News, without cargo, has been torpedoed off Beachy Head. She was struck amidships. Three of the crew, Chinese, were killed. Two others were severely scalded. Forty-one of the crew were landed at Newhaven. The Harpalion was owned by J. & C. Harrison, Limited, of London. She was built at West Hartlepool in 1910. She registered 5,867 tons gross and was commanded by Captain Peto.

Much more serious for the British was the reported loss of the auxiliary cruiser Clan Macnaughton. She has been missing since February 3, and is supposed to have gone down in a storm with 280 officers and men, among whom were twenty men of the Newfoundland Naval Reserve.

American Crew Saved. All the members of the crew of the German steamer Carib, sunk off the German coast by a mine, have been saved, a dispatch from Berlin says. The sinking of the Carib was reported on Tuesday.

The Berlin dispatch states that a message has been received there from the United States Vice-Consul at Bremen reporting the rescue of the American crew. The vice-consul's telegram added that the Carib struck a mine in the Bight of Helgoland on Monday afternoon.

Another dispatch from Berlin said it had been officially reported there that the British transport 192 was sunk by a German submarine off Beachy Head yesterday afternoon. It is believed here that this refers to the government collier Branksome Chine, the sinking of which was announced here last night.

The Branksome Chine was sunk off Beachy Head, in the English Channel. Her captain, who stood by after her crew of eighteen had safely got away to New Haven in the boats, reported to the owners to-day that the vessel had gone down.

Laden with food, mostly canned goods, for Rotterdam, the Norwegian steamer Vitalis, from New York, Feb. 23, was seized and taken into Fairbury 3, and is being taken into Fairbury to-day for investigation. The American Embassy and Consulate have taken the matter in hand, and it is believed in those quarters that the ship and her cargo will soon be released.

It is understood that the path of the British transport, the Vitalis, a small boat, 723 tons, was chartered by the Federal Forwarding Company, of New York, to take a cargo of Chicago meats to American agents in Rotterdam. The captain is said to have certificates from the consuls of Great Britain and Holland at New York vouching for the cargo.

Both the Oakby and the Rio Parana were sunk in the English Channel, but not quite so far south as the path of the British transports, which are now believed to be moving troops to France by thousands daily.

Water Swamps Lifeboat. The Oakby, 1,251 tons, was caught off Rye, on the Sussex coast. She was on her way from London to Cardiff in ballast. The torpedo struck her on the port side, splintered her deck, hurled hatches and hinged into the air, and threw up so much water that one of the lifeboats was carried away.

Four miles distant, the fishing smack

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BRITAIN WON'T YIELD, IS VIEW IN WASHINGTON

Efforts of U. S. to Have Food Decision Modified Believed Futile.

NOTE NOW IN HANDS OF GERMAN OFFICIALS

Concessions May Be Made, but England Is Not Expected to Accept Proposals.

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